THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) A conference of State Ministers and Secretaries incharge of Textiles was held on 10.4.2001 to emphasise partnership of States in overall development of textile sector and, thereby, facilitate growth in exports. The proposed schemes like Textile Centres Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS) for development of textile centres and setting up of Apparel Parks for Exports are being promoted in partnership with the States. Union Minister for Textiles has also written to the Ministers incharge of Textiles of all States/Union Territories emphasising modernisation and upgradation of garment processing and weaving units both in the organised and unorganised sectors and for ushering an environment conducive to labour productivity.

(c) and (d) State-wise export target is not fixed by the Government.

Development of sericulture in A.P.

3314. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have chalked out any programme for promoting the development of sericulture in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the role is being played by the Central Silk Board in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Silk Board (CSB) is implementing the following sericulture projects/schemes in the IX Plan for promoting development of sericulture in the country including Andhra Pradesh:—

1. **Catalytic Development Programme:**

With a view to assist the silk industry and to supplement the efforts of the State Governments including Andhra Pradesh, 36 schemes under the Catalytic Development Programmes are being implemented in the country during IX Plan. The schemes cover activities ranging from food plant cultivation to marketing of products in mulberry, tasar, eri and muga silk sectors.

2. **Project for Promotion of Popularizing of the Practical Bivoltine Sericulture Technology (PPPPBST):**

The CSB has been implementing this project with the assistance of

Japanese International Co-operation Agency (JICA) to develop and introduce hardier and productive bivoltine silkworm races and appropriate package of practices for mulberry garden and silkworm rearing technology suited to tropical conditions. The assistance is in the form of equipment supply, expert deployment and training. This is expected to result in production of international grade of raw silk in the country.

3. United Nations Development Programme:

The United Nations Development programme in collaboration with Government of India has initiated a sub-programme on development of non-mulberry silks-tasar, muga and eri in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa, Meghalaya, Nagaland and West Bengal under Fibres and Handicrafts Programme (FHAP) of Country Co-operation Frame Work (CCF-I). In Andhra Pradesh the focus is on the development of tasar.

4. SERI—2000

This project is a part of technical and scientific cooperation between Government of India and Switzerland. The project is being implemented over a period of Five Years from 1997-98 in the traditional States *viz.*, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal.

(c) The CSB's role is to transfer technology of its Research and Development programmes to the State, provide, seed, extension and training support to supplement the efforts of the State Governments and also give technical, financial assistance in critical or important areas in the agricultural or processing chain of sericulture.

Poor performance of Textile Units

3315. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the textile units in the country are showing poor performance;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have identified such textile units;

(d) whether any action plan has been formulated to improve the performance of loss making textile units; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?